

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04200 061216 Z

15

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08

CEA-02 L-03 H-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 AGR-20 TAR-02

RSR-01 /165 W

----- 128105

R 061033 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

UNCLAS TOKYO 4200

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: MITI TRADE PROJECTIONS

1. DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION WITH PRIME MINISTER ON APRIL 4 MITI VICE MINISTER MOROZUMI REPORTEDLY PROVIDED FOLLOWING TRADE FIGURES AND PROJECTIONS. JAPAN'S SURPLUS IN TRADE WITH U. S. FOR JFY 1972 (YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1973) WAS \$3.9 BILLION ON AN IMF BASE. IN JFY 1973 JAPAN'S EXPORTS TO U. S. EXPECTED TO INCREASE 5 PERCENT OVER JFY 1972. JAPAN'S IMPORTS FROM U. S. JFY 1973 EXPECTED INCREASE 27 TO 28 PERCENT OVER JFY 1972 TOTALS. IF PREDICTIONS HOLD JAPAN'S SURPLUS IN TRADE WITH U. S. IN JFY 1973 EXPECTED TO BE \$2.9 BILLION.

2. EMBASSY HAS CHECKED ABOVE FIGURES WITH WORKING LEVEL AT MITI. MITI OFFICIAL STATED THAT FIGURE USED BY MOROZUMI CONSTITUTE MEAN AVERAGE OF CURRENT PROJECTIONS WITHIN MITI WHICH SEE A JAPANESE SURPLUS IN TRADE WITH U. S. IN JFY 1973 RANGING BETWEEN \$2.7 AND \$3.1 BILLION. HE SAID MITI STILL WORKING TO REFINE PROJECTIONS AND HAS NOT YET ADOPTED OFFICIAL ESTIMATE.

3. IN REPORTING MOROZUMI ESTIMATE OF JFY 1973 SURPLUS, PRESS HAS SPECULATED THAT \$2.9 BILLION SURPLUS IN JAPAN'S FAVOR WILL STILL BE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 04200 061216 Z

UNACCEPTABLE TO U. S. WHICH WILL CONTINUE PRESSURE FOR GREATER
IMPROVEMENT.
SHOESMITH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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